

REMARKS

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kelly et al in view of Stifano, Jr. and Nagao et al or Miller et al. The examiner points out that Kelly et al discloses all of the claimed subject matter except for drilling a positioning hole and forging socket. Stifano, Jr. discloses steps of forming a socket by forging. Besides, examiner also points out that Nagano et al or Miller et al disclose the step of drilling a positioning hole.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement, since a hole cannot be formed in a recess, and the purpose of the positioning recess 21 is not understood.

Responsive to this, claim 2 is amended and limits that the forging process is applied in the inner periphery of the positioning recess so as to form an engaging hole 12 in the inner periphery of the positioning recess. It is noted that Stifano Jr. does not disclose forging step to form the socket, Stifano Jr. only uses several types of punches to punch holes in the socket but does not mention any step of forging. Forging is not only punching, forging step includes two main parts, one the hammering and the other is heating. Only punching is simply punching not forging. The forging step of the claimed method is focused to improve the shortcomings of conventional methods for making sockets by way of milling which is

time-consuming and high temperature during milling makes the material to be fragile and less stronger. The claimed method uses the process of forging to make an integral socket which is strong and excludes the shortcomings of the conventional methods. Therefore, the combination of disclosures of Kelly et al and Stifano Jr. cannot make the claimed method to be obvious. Actually, in the claimed method, steps 2, 3 and 4 each involve a forging step, however, Stifano, Jr. does not disclose any forging step in the steps.

Besides, the positioning recess is used to provide a recessed area so that the forging process is applied at the designated recessed area rather than the whole flat end surface of the polygonal protrusion. Although the positioning recess is not necessarily a centering recess, the positioning recess is helpful for the forging process to be proceeded. The positioning recess allows that the hammer in the forging step hammers at the desired area without worry of slip away if the positioning recess is replaced with a flat end surface.

Kelly et al does not discloses any method for making a socket, Stifano, Jr. does not mention any step of forging and only disclose the use of punches, and Nagao et al or Miller et al only disclose the positioning hole. Even if the disclosures of all of the cited references are combined as one, it lacks the forging steps as suggested by the Applicant to make the socket. Therefore, the amended claim 2 has

disclosed a method that is not disclosed in the cited prior arts so that the amended claim 2 should be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the application is now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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